

CONFIDENTIAL**EYES ONLY****OGC HAS
REVIEWED.**

4 FEB 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

VIA : Deputy Director for Administration

4 FEB 1976

SUBJECT : Airlie House/Airlie Foundation
(Review of IRS Records Concerning)

1. The Office of Security is responding to several questions concerning the Agency's association with the Airlie House as posed by Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug, requested by the Office of Legislative Counsel on 27 January 1976 (OLC 76-0244).

2. Pursuant to Congresswoman Abzug's request, the Office of Security reviewed the file pertaining to Dr. Murdock Head (SP#188 941), the President of the Airlie Foundation. Cited file reflects that circa 26 March 1964, [REDACTED] then Associate General Counsel, made available to Mr. Robert Bannerman, former Director of Security, a "confidential Internal Revenue Service file" concerning the Airlie Foundation. Cited Internal Revenue Service file had apparently been loaned to the [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1A

3. The Office of Security file concerning Dr. Head reflects that on 13 April 1964 the Internal Revenue Service file on the Airlie Foundation had been returned to the Office of General Counsel with the notation that while the file contained some valuable information, the "possible use of the Foundation for intelligence purposes be approached with extreme caution." The Office of Security apparently made a photocopy of the Internal Revenue Service "confidential" file prior to returning it to the Office of General Counsel, and this photocopy is presently located within Dr. Head's Office of Security file. The photo-copied Internal Revenue Service file consists primarily of data relating to attempts by the Airlie Foundation to receive tax-exempt status.

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CONFIDENTIAL

EYES ONLY

4. With respect to Congresswoman Abzug's request for information concerning Airlie House, the reply to her specific questions in this matter can be accomplished without mention of the Agency's review of the Internal Revenue Service file. 25X1A
However, we have indicated that the Office of General Counsel did have an interest in the Airlie Foundation in 1964. The above is being brought to your attention in view of [REDACTED] apparent involvement. The Office of Security defers to you for appropriate action.

[REDACTED] 25X1A
Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee
2 - DDA
1 - IG
1 - OLC

2

EYES ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: DDA		13 FEB 1976
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
13 FEB 1976		
FROM: OLC		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

2 February 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Inquiry from Representative Bella Abzug
re Airlie House

1. We are in touch with the Office of Security and Central Cover, among others, in preparing a response to specific questions raised in Representative Bella Abzug's (D., N. Y.) letter concerning possible Agency involvement with Airlie House. Preliminary indications are that CIA has never financially supported Airlie House nor have we been in any way managerially or otherwise associated with it, except to the extent that Agency employees have, on occasion, attended conferences at Airlie House on various subjects. It is my understanding that Airlie is widely used by the Civil Service Commission for various retreats and seminars and conferences covering a wide range of topics. I also understand that Airlie is now associated with, if not owned by, George Washington University and has some connection with the medical department at GWU.

2. It is interesting that the question of Federal support or subsidy of Airlie is being raised again, for as some of the attached documents indicate, similar inquiries were raised in 1967. I am attaching a copy of the statement made on the floor of the House by then Representative Melvin Laird regarding Government connections, specifically including alleged CIA connections with this facility.

3. I am told that the Office of Security did run a security clearance on one of the owners or heads of Airlie as part of its arrangement with the Department of Defense to conduct some investigations of a security nature for DOD [REDACTED] of our security investigators. We will have more information on this as Security examines its files more closely.

STATINTL

[REDACTED]
STATINTL

/s/ George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

Attachment

Distribution: Orig - Adsc

1 - OLC/Subj

1 - OLC/Chrono OLC/GUC/asn

ED ☐ INTERNAL ☒ CONFIDENTIAL
Approved For Release 2001/08/27 : CIA-RDP79-00498A000600120039-0

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Airlie House/Airlie Foundation
(Review of IRS Records Concerning)

FROM:

Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

EXTENSION

NO.

6777

DATE _____

4 FEB 1976

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE _____

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. DDA
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4 FEB 1976

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EYES ONLY

2. UNM

5 FEB 1976

3. _____

4. Registry

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EYES ONLY

FORM
3-62

610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

SECRET



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

76-6502/A

OLC 76-0244/a

DD/A Registry

76/0722

12 FEB 1976

Honorable Bella S. Abzug, Chairwoman
 Subcommittee on Individual Rights
 Committee on Government Operations
 House of Representatives
 Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Madame Chairwoman:

This is in response to your letter dated 27 January 1976 requesting information concerning the relationship or contacts of the Central Intelligence Agency with Airlie Foundation or Airlie House Conference Center, Warrenton, Virginia.

As you undoubtedly are aware, the Airlie Foundation at Warrenton, Virginia provides facilities for conferences sponsored by, among others, agencies of the Federal Government and private organizations. The CIA and its employees have been extended invitations by sponsors to attend conferences. The CIA, however, has never been a sponsor of a conference held at the Warrenton facility nor at any other facility of Airlie Foundation in the United States or elsewhere. Specific responses to the questions raised in your letter are enclosed.

In view of the absence of any direct relationship of CIA with Airlie Foundation or Airlie House Conference Center or with any of their officers or personnel, we trust that this response satisfies your inquiry.

Sincerely,

/s/ Vernon A. Walters

Vernon A. Walters
 Acting Director

Enclosure
 as stated

Distribution:

Orig. - Addressee w/encl.

1 - DCI w/encl.	1 - DDS&T w/encl.	1 - GC w/encl.
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1 - DDA w/encl.	1 - DDI w/encl.	1 - ER w/encl.

1 - OLC/Subj. w/encl. 1 - OLC/Chrono wo/encl.

OLC/PLC/dlw/6604/9010 (5 Feb. 1976)



(1) The nature and extent of the relationship or contacts of the Central Intelligence Agency (or any other element of the United States intelligence community) with Airlie Foundation or Airlie House Conference Center, each of Warrenton, Virginia, or with any of their officers, personnel, activities or programs.

Employees of the Central Intelligence Agency have by invitation attended conferences held at the Airlie House Conference Center at Warrenton, Virginia sponsored by other government agencies or private organizations. The invitations were made solely by the sponsors to the CIA or directly personally to CIA employees. There has been no direct relationship or contact of the CIA with Airlie Foundation, the Conference Center or their personnel.

In regard to your request as to the nature and extent of the relationship or contacts of any other element of the U. S. intelligence community with the Airlie Foundation and its Conference Center, we feel it best that you contact these agencies directly since we have no knowledge of the extent of their relationship with the Foundation.

(2) Whether the CIA or any of its personnel has had any contacts with, or been present at the Airlie House Conference Center or its activities, or has had contacts with its officers or personnel. If so, state who was present on each and every such occasion, the date and time the activity occurred, the nature of the activity and the nature of any contact or communication.

The invitations to the CIA and its employees to attend conferences held at the Airlie Foundation have come from the sponsors of the conferences and not from any officers or personnel of the Airlie Foundation. There has been no official contact with the Foundation officials or personnel other than casual contact with the Conference Center service personnel who provide meals and lodging.

Most invitations to CIA employees have been personal and informal, particularly for those conferences sponsored by the Department of State. Course announcements were sent by the Civil Service Commission to government agencies, including CIA to attend the "Conference of Ethics Counselors" held 24-25 November 1975. The CIA also attended the "Population Analysis Conference" sponsored by the Agency for International Development which was held for three days in March and May 1971.

(5) Whether the CIA has obtained any information at any time regarding what was said, transpired or took place at the Airlie House Conference Center or at any other place or activity sponsored by such Conference Center or by the Airlie Foundation, including but not limited to places and activities in or concerning Latin America pursuant to contracts with the Agency for International Development. If so, supply such information and state how it was obtained, the reason it was obtained, and all uses to which it was put.

Of course, CIA employees discussed the subject of the conferences that they attended with their Agency associates and undoubtedly with others having an interest in the subject. Also, CIA employees would have discussed the subject matter of a conference with those who attended when the subject was of interest to the CIA employees.